

Message Text

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PAGE 01 JIDDA 03866 310537Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 /018 W
-----310537Z 000556 /15
R 291400Z MAY 77
FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA
TO USDOC WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8485

UNCLAS JIDDA 3866

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BEXP, SA
SUBJ: HOTEL BILL FROM FEBRUARY EDP SEMINAR

1. TAJ PALACE HOTEL, JIDDA (PHONE 21288), WHICH PROVIDED LODGING FOR SEVERAL NON-OFFICIAL TAG-ON MEMBERS OF FEBRUARY 1977 EDP SENINAR, HAS SUBMITTED BILL FOR ONE NIGHT'S LODGING FOR NIGHT OF FEBRUARY 20, WHICH APPARENTLY WAS NOT PAID BY INDIVIDUALS CONCERNED PRIOR TO DEPARTURE.

2. BILL IS FOR FOUR-BED SUITE RESERVED BY EMBASSY IN NAMES OF MESSRS. ST. DIZIER, TSILIKOUNAS AND CHALDUHI OF HONEYWELL AND BRIAN JOHNSON OF DATA GENERAL, AND A SEPARATE DOUBLE ROOM RESERVED FOR MISS VON BECK OF HONEYWELL.

3. ALTHOUGH IN FACT MISSION MEMBERS DID NOT ARRIVE JIDDA UNTIL FEB. 21, AND SOME OF THE NAMES UNDER WHICH THE RESERVATIONS WERE MADE AT TAJ PALACE NEVER DID SHOW UP IN JIDDA (E.G. BRIAN JOHNSON AND ST. DIZIER) TO OUR KNOWLEDGE, OUR INSTRUCTION FOR MAKING THESE RESERVATIONS BEGINNING FEB. 20 WAS BAGHDAD 0329 OF FEB. 17. POST RESEPONDED WITH JIDDA 1366 OF FEB. 17 NOTHING EXTRA HOTEL RESERVATIONS MADE UNDER SPECIFIC NAMES AND DATES, AND REMINDING MISSION MEMBERS OF THEIR PERSONAL LIABILITY IN CASE
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OF NO-SHOW.

4. BEFORE MISSION DEPARTED JIDDA, EMBOFF WAS TOLD BY TSILIKOUNAS OF HONEYWELL THAT ALL DEBTS TO HOTEL HAD BEEN PAID. APPARENTLY, HOWEVER, BILL FOR FEBRUARY 20 WAS NOT RESOLVED AT THAT TIME.

5. ABOVE HAS BEEN EXPLAINED IN JENSEN LETTER TO HONEYWELL OFFICIAL MISSION MEMBER KING GILLES (WITH COPY OF LETTER AND HOTEL BILL TO CAGNE/RUAN). RESPONSE JUST RECEIVED FROM HONEYWELL'S TSILIKOUNAS (DATED MAY 2) SUGGESTS THAT HONEYWELL REPS ARE HESITATING TO PAY BILL FOR FEB. 20.

6. EMBASSY HAS INFORMED HOTEL THAT AMOUNT DUE MUST BE CLAIMED DIRECTLY FROM PARTIES INVOLVED. THIS CAVEAT WAS ALSO INCLUDED IN OFFICIAL EMBASSY LETTER WHICH ACCOMPANIED ORIGINAL ROOM RESERVATION.

7. REQUEST USDOC RESOLVE MATTER WITH NON-OFFICIAL MEMBERS OF EDP SEMINAR MISSION, FOR WHOM EXTRA ROOM RESERVATIONS WERE MADE AT SPECIFIC REQUEST OF MISSION DIRECTOR, AT 11TH HOUR AS MISSION WAS ENROUTE TO JIDDA. DELAY AND HESITATION BY NON-OFFICIAL MISSION MEMBERS TO PAY AMOUNT BILLED THEM NOT ONLY HARMS REPUTATION OF EMBASSY AND OTHER BUSINESSMEN USING JIDDA HOTEL, BUT MAY EFFECT FUTURE ABILITY OF COMPANIES CONCERNED TO OBTAIN SAUDI VISAS. IN RELATIVELY SMALL COMMUNITY OF JIDDA, WORD TRAVELS FAST. AMOUNT DUE, 1,120 SAUDI RIYALS OR \$317.40, SHOULD BE SENT TO HOTEL DIRECTLY, WITH NOTICE OF PAYMENT TO EMBASSY.
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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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